GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6013
ANSWERED ON:06.05.2002
ACQUISITION OF AIRCRAFT BY AIR INDIA
T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air India has decided to acquire 23 new aircraft over the next five years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Air India will continue with its current exercise of taking aircraft on dry lease to meet current requirement; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN)

(a) and (b) : Air India has constituted an in-house Expert Committee to develop Air India`s fleet plan for the next five years and pattern of operations from 2003/04 to 2007/08 based on an assessment of market opportunities for capacity expansion in existing/additional markets, requirements to offer a competitive product; an assessment of the need to induct aircraft of appropriate range and size into Air India`s fleet, etc. The Committee is expected to submit its Report shortly.

(c) and (d) : Air India has taken 5 A310-300 aircraft on dry lease in order to extend their operations. As a part of Air India`s Fleet Rationalisation Plan, additional 3 A310-300 aircraft are proposed to be dry leased and alongwith this induction 2 B747-200 and 3 A300-B4 aircraft are proposed to be phased out. Air India invited tenders for dry lease of upto 3 A310-300 aircraft, to be delivered during the year 2002. Six bids have been received. Evaluation of these bids is in progress. Besides, Air India also invited bids for dry lease of upto two B747-400 aircraft.